

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 IO-12 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FMC-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-02 SCI-06

CEQ-02 EPA-04 RSR-01 DOTE-00 /079 W
----- 010254

R 231119 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1400

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

UNCLAS LONDON 06037

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN, PBOR, DA

SUBJECT: NAVIGATION OF GREAT BAELT CHANNEL

1. THE MARAD REPRESENTATIVE HELD A MEETING WITH TAG DAN MADSEN, HEAD OF SHIPPING DEPARTMENT, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE DENMARK ON 10 MAY IN COPENHAGEN WHEREIN A QUESTION WAS RAISED ABOUT NAVIGATION IN THE GREAT BAELT (STORE BAELT).

2. HE WAS ADVISED THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF DEEP DRAFT TANKERS GOING AGROUND AND CAUSING LARGE SCALE POLLUTION IN THE WATERS AROUND THE GREAT BAELT. THE DANES HAVE OBSERVED LARGE VESSELS FREQUENTING THIS CHANNEL AND THE DANISH GOVERNMENT HAS ESTABLISHED SAFE NAVIGATION RULES. THESE RULES, WHICH ARE NOT ADHERED TO BY ALL VESSELS, INCLUDE USE OF A PILOT, USE OF RADIOTELEPHONE CONTROL, AND RESTRICTION OF DRAFT TO 15 METERS.

3. IT APPEARS THAT THE DANISH AUTHORITIES WOULD LIKE TO PUT SOME INTERNATIONAL TEETH TO THEIR RULES BY SEEKING AN IMCO RESOLUTION ON THE SAFE NAVIGATION OF THE GREAT BAELT. THE RESOLUTION WHICH MIGHT BE SPONSORED BY SCANDINAVIAN MEMBERS COULD CALL FOR ALL VESSELS TO TAKE A PILOT, HAVE RADIOTELEPHONE CONTACT WITH TRAFFIC CONTROL

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AND TO LIMIT DRAFT TO 15 METERS.

4. MR. MADSEN WANTED TO KNOW IF THE US GOVERNMENT COULD
SUPPORT SUCH A RESOLUTION AT THE NEXT IMCO SUBCOMMITTEE
ON SAFETY OF NAVIGATION ON 25-29 JUNE. MARAD REP
PROMISED TO PASS THIS ON TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE FOR
WASHINGTON CONSIDERATION.

ANNENBERG

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973LONDON06037
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730553/aaaajsdv.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: kellerpr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <03-Aug-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <20-Aug-2001 by kellerpr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980304
Subject: NAVIGATION OF GREAT BAELT CHANNEL
TAGS: ETRN, PBOR, DA, ETRN, PBOR
To: COPENHAGEN
EB
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005